

Marriage and Divorce

2004

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Marriage and Divorce Highlights

<u>Key Indicators</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Delaware</u>	<u>U.S.</u>	<u>Recent Trend in Delaware*</u>
Marriages • Number of marriages per 1,000 population <i>(See Table B-2)</i>	2000-2004	6.4	8.0**	Decreasing
Divorces • Number of divorces per 1,000 population <i>(See Table B-6)</i>	2000-2004	3.8	3.7**	Decreasing

* Trend over last 3 to 4 time periods.

** U.S. divorce data based on national estimates for 2004.

Key Facts

- There were 5,088 marriages and 3,108 divorces in Delaware in 2004 (see Tables B-1 and B-5, respectively).
- The most popular month to get married in Delaware in 2004 was October (see Table B-3).
- The median duration of marriage for couples divorced in 2004 was 8.4 years (see Table B-7).
- There were a total of 2,725 children under 18 years of age among couples who divorced in 2004 (see Table B-8).

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TABLE B-1
NUMBER OF MARRIAGES BY PLACE OF CEREMONY
U.S., DELAWARE AND COUNTIES, 1984-2004

Year	U.S.	Delaware	Kent	New Castle	Sussex
1984	2477192	5461	1038	3434	989
1985	2412625	5356	1063	3443	850
1986	2407099	5484	1142	3433	909
1987	2403378	5410	1001	3429	980
1988	2395926	5645	1114	3512	1019
1989	2403268	5946	1100	3783	1063
1990	2443489	5643	1027	3524	1092
1991	2371000 *	5348	1073	3259	1016
1992	2362000 *	5069	1026	3028	1015
1993	2334000 *	5023	982	3033	1008
1994	2362000 *	5080	1000	3028	1052
1995	2336000 *	5378	1019	3216	1143
1996	2344000 *	5209	980	3081	1148
1997	2384000 *	5372	1017	3154	1201
1998	2244000 *	5023	937	2951	1135
1999	2251000 *	5188	929	3011	1248
2000	2376000 *	5292	957	3117	1218
2001	2345000 *	5279	963	3118	1198
2002	2254000 *	5171	1015	2899	1257
2003	2245000 *	4923	923	2784	1216
2004	2279000 *	5088	998	2801	1289

FYAMAR1

Note:

*Based on NCHS estimate.

Sources:

National Center for Health Statistics
Delaware Health Statistics Center

TABLE B-2
FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE MARRIAGE RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION
BY PLACE OF CEREMONY

U.S., DELAWARE AND COUNTIES, 1984-2004

Years	U.S.	Delaware	Kent	New Castle	Sussex
1984-1988	10.1	8.6	10.2	8.2	8.9
1985-1989	9.9	8.7	10.2	8.2	8.9
1986-1990	9.9	8.7	9.9	8.2	9.2
1987-1991	9.7 *	8.5	9.7	8.0	9.2
1988-1992	9.6 *	8.2	9.5	7.7	9.0
1989-1993	9.4 *	7.9	9.2	7.4	8.8
1990-1994	9.3 *	7.5	8.8	7.0	8.5
1991-1995	9.1 *	7.3	8.7	6.7	8.3
1992-1996	9.0 *	7.2	8.4	6.6	8.2
1993-1997	9.0 *	7.1	8.3	6.5	8.2
1994-1998	8.8 *	7.0	8.2	6.4	8.1
1995-1999	8.6 *	7.0	7.9	6.4	8.2
1996-2000	8.5 *	6.8	7.8	6.2	8.0
1997-2001	8.4 *	6.8	7.6	6.2	7.9
1998-2002	8.2 *	6.6	7.5	6.0	7.7
1999-2003	8.1 *	6.5	7.4	5.9	7.6
2000-2004	8.0 *	6.4	7.3	5.8	7.5

FYAMAR2

Note:

*Based on NCHS estimate.

Sources:

National Center for Health Statistics
Delaware Health Statistics Center

TABLE B-3
NUMBER AND PERCENT OF MARRIAGES BY MONTH OF CEREMONY
DELAWARE, 2004

Month	Number	Percent
January	230	4.5
February	290	5.7
March	275	5.4
April	372	7.3
May	556	10.9
June	597	11.7
July	509	10.0
August	486	9.6
September	556	10.9
October	604	11.9
November	327	6.4
December	286	5.6
Total	5088	100.0

DAYMONT1

Notes:

1. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.
2. Percentages are calculated based upon the total number of marriages.

Source:

Delaware Health Statistics Center

TABLE B-4
NUMBER AND PERCENT OF MARRIAGES BY DAY OF WEEK CEREMONY PERFORMED
DELAWARE, 2004

Day	Number	Percent
Sunday	336	6.6
Monday	97	1.9
Tuesday	197	3.9
Wednesday	757	14.9
Thursday	163	3.2
Friday	667	13.1
Saturday	2871	56.4
Total	5088	100.0

DAYMONT2

Notes:

1. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.
2. Percentages are calculated based upon the total number of marriages.

Source:

Delaware Health Statistics Center

TABLE B-5
NUMBER OF DIVORCES/ANNULMENTS* BY PLACE OF DECREE
DELAWARE AND COUNTIES, 1984-2004

Year	Delaware	Kent	New Castle	Sussex
1984	2907	602	1785	520
1985	2992	648	1806	538
1986	3093	612	1876	605
1987	2939	630	1729	580
1988	3007	646	1835	526
1989	2896	637	1683	576
1990	3034	575	1922	537
1991	3009	646	1724	639
1992	3397	653	2065	679
1993	3175	634	1957	584
1994	3551	707	2152	692
1995	3509	798	2003	708
1996	3405	712	1970	723
1997	3009	647	1700	662
1998	3233	652	1984	597
1999	3482	801	2008	673
2000	3060	674	1808	578
2001	3114	666	1657	791
2002	2792	714	1392	686
2003	3178	673	1834	671
2004	3108	701	1744	663

Note:

*Annulments represent less than 0.3% of the totals.

FYADIV1

Source:

Delaware Health Statistics Center

TABLE B-6
FIVE-YEAR AVERAGE DIVORCE/ANNULMENT* RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION
BY PLACE OF DECREE

DELAWARE AND COUNTIES, 1984-2004

Years	Delaware	Kent	New Castle	Sussex
1984-1988	4.7	6.0	4.3	5.2
1985-1989	4.7	5.9	4.2	5.2
1986-1990	4.6	5.7	4.2	5.1
1987-1991	4.5	5.7	4.1	5.1
1988-1992	4.6	5.6	4.2	5.1
1989-1993	4.5	5.5	4.2	5.1
1990-1994	4.7	5.6	4.3	5.1
1991-1995	4.7	5.8	4.3	5.2
1992-1996	4.7	5.9	4.3	5.2
1993-1997	4.6	5.8	4.1	5.0
1994-1998	4.5	5.8	4.1	4.9
1995-1999	4.4	5.9	4.0	4.7
1996-2000	4.2	5.6	3.9	4.4
1997-2001	4.1	5.5	3.7	4.3
1998-2002	4.0	5.5	3.5	4.2
1999-2003	3.9	5.4	3.4	4.2
2000-2004	3.8	5.2	3.3	4.1

Note:

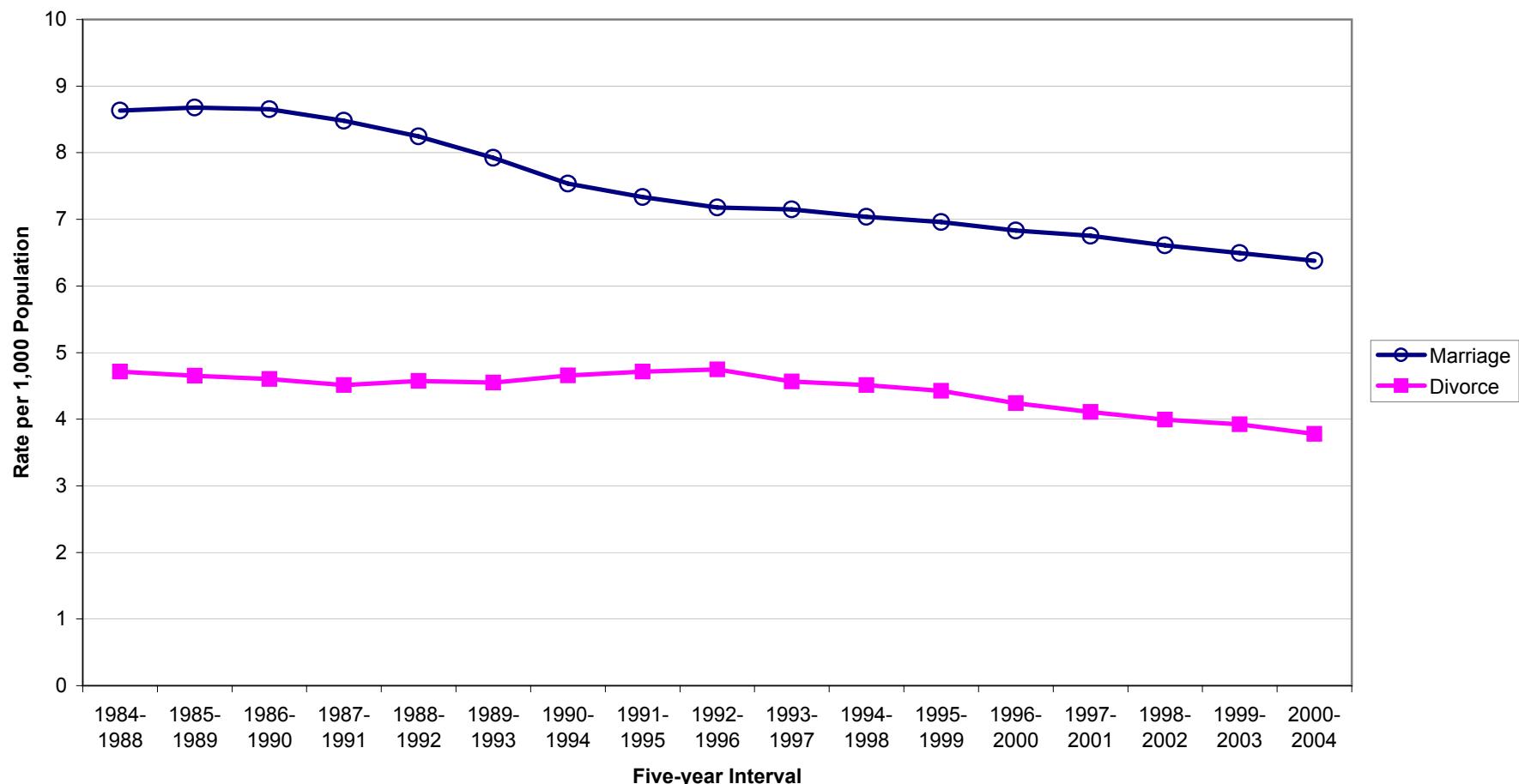
*Annulments represent less than 0.3% of the totals.

FYADIV2

Source:

Delaware Health Statistics Center

Figure B-1
Five-year Average Marriage and Divorce Rates
Delaware, 1984-2004



Source:
 Delaware Health Statistics Center

TABLE B-7
MEAN AND MEDIAN DURATION OF MARRIAGE IN YEARS AT TIME OF DIVORCE DECREE
BY RACE AND NUMBER OF THIS MARRIAGE

DELAWARE, 2004

Race/ Number of Marriage	Husband		Wife	
	Mean	Median	Mean	Median
All Races				
All Marriages	10.8	8.4	10.8	8.4
First Marriage	11.4	8.7	11.6	8.9
Second Marriage	9.8	7.9	9.3	7.2
Third Marriage+	7.4	5.8	7.5	6.3
White				
All Marriages	11.0	8.6	11.0	8.5
First Marriage	11.6	9.0	11.8	9.2
Second Marriage	10.3	8.3	9.7	8.1
Third Marriage+	8.1	7.0	7.9	6.9
Black				
All Marriages	9.7	7.3	9.7	7.3
First Marriage	10.8	8.3	10.6	8.3
Second Marriage	7.5	5.8	7.8	6.2
Third Marriage+	5.2	3.8	4.8	3.1

Notes:

1. See Definitions Section for explanation of the mean and median.
2. "All Races" includes "Other" and "Unknown" race categories.
3. "All Marriages" includes unknown number of this marriage.

Source:

Delaware Health Statistics Center

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TABLE B-8
NUMBER AND PERCENT OF DIVORCES BY RACE OF HUSBAND AND WIFE
AND NUMBER OF CHILDREN UNDER 18

DELAWARE, 2004

Number of Children Under 18	Race							
	All Races		White		Black		Other/Unknown	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Husband	3108	100.0	2132	100.0	656	100.0	320	100.0
None	1450	46.7	983	46.1	325	49.5	142	44.4
1	681	21.9	482	22.6	122	18.6	77	24.1
2	607	19.5	439	20.6	112	17.1	56	17.5
3	180	5.8	121	5.7	40	6.1	19	5.9
4	51	1.6	27	1.3	19	2.9	5	1.6
5+	16	0.5	10	0.5	4	0.6	2	0.6
Unknown	123	4.0	70	3.3	34	5.2	19	5.9
Wife	3108	100.0	2136	100.0	608	100.0	364	100.0
None	1450	46.7	976	45.7	309	50.8	165	45.3
1	681	21.9	483	22.6	114	18.8	84	23.1
2	607	19.5	445	20.8	96	15.8	66	18.1
3	180	5.8	123	5.8	34	5.6	23	6.3
4	51	1.6	30	1.4	17	2.8	4	1.1
5+	16	0.5	12	0.6	3	0.5	1	0.3
Unknown	123	4.0	67	3.1	35	5.8	21	5.8

CHILD

Notes:

1. Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.
2. Percentages are calculated based upon the total number of divorces in each race category.
3. "All Races" includes "Other" and "Unknown" race categories.

Source:

Delaware Health Statistics Center